

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 10947 280448Z

12  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 W  
----- 039699  
R 271205Z JUL 76  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7360

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 10947

STADIS//////////

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM SAXBE

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OCON  
SUBJECT: CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE

1. WHILE I WAS IN WASHINGTON I TALKED TO THE DESK ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE DURING THE COMING MONTHS IN DELHI, BUT DID NOT HAVE THE CHANCE TO SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT IT. I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT WE IN DELHI WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO BE HOSTS AT SUCH A CONFERENCE AND SUGGEST EARLY NOVEMBER AS A GOOD TIME. WE HAVE THE FACILITIES AND THE STAFF TO MANAGE IT.

2. WHAT I WOULD SUGGEST IS A CONFERENCE OF SOUTH ASIAN AMBASSADORS ONLY. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA DO NOT MIX EASILY. I WOULD SUGGEST, HOWEVER, THAT IRAN BE INCLUDED BECAUSE OF ITS CLOSE LINKS EASTWARD. I WOULD, OF COURSE, LEAVE TO YOUR JUDGMENT WHETHER THE ENTIRE BUREAU SHOULD MEET TOGETHER. WE CAN EASILY HANDLE THEM ALL.

3. YOU WOULD, OF COURSE, HAVE TO BE THE CENTERPIECE. IF YOU CAN COME, WE WOULD ALL GREATLY BENEFIT. I DOUBT THAT THERE WOULD BE MORE PURPOSE SERVED IF YOU COULD NOT. I KNOW HOW HECTIC YOUR LIFE IS WITHOUT ANOTHER INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENT, BUT I DO HOPE YOU CAN SPARE SOME TIME TO MEET WITH YOUR AMBASSADORS FROM SOUTH ASIA.

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